(a) whether there is any proposal under Governments consideration for mining of coal in collaboration with China, if so, what are the details of such understanding;

(b) whether the joint venture production will be marketed exclusively to China or Government will have a free hand to market the coal; and

(c) what are the details of coal mines marked for joint venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Presently there is no specific proposal under Government's consideration for mining of coal in collaboration with China. An Indian Coal Delegation visited China in November, '92 to study the Chinese coal mining industry. In view of the fact that China being the largest coal producer in the world with reported production of about 1140 million tonnes during the year 1992-93, most of which came from the underground mines, there is scope for mutual collaboration with China in the coal sector.

**Exploring of coal mines in Bihar and Gujarat**

*13. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR YADAV 'RAVI':

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have conducted research/survey to explore the possibility of coal mines in Bihar and Gujarat, particularly in Saurashtra and Surendranagar; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India (GSI), who are mainly responsible for carrying out the regional exploration to locate the coal reserves available in the various parts of the country, have established a total reserves of 64371.75 million tonnes in the State of Bihar till 1-1-1993 out of which 28993.19 million tonnes are in proved category. Large scale coal mining is already being carried out in this State.

Total coal reserves found uptil now in Saurashtra region of the State of Gujarat has been estimated around 3 million tonnes. These deposits occur in very thing seams exploitation of which is not economically viable. In addition, occurrence of deposits of coal at considerable depths in Mehsana-Kalol areas of Gujarat has been reported during the course of exploration for oil by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). Mining of these deposits is not considered technically feasible.

UN Conference on Chil Libour

*14: SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it was brought to the notice of the UN Human Rights Commission at their recent Vienna Conference, that more than 80 million children in the Indian subcontinent continue to languish in boncage, working for 14-16 hours a day in inhuman conditions and a demand was made to stop all UN aid to these countries where such practice exists;

(b) if so, what was the number of children indicated to be in bondage in India according to this report: and

(c) what was the Indian delegation's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) As intimated by Ministry of External Affairs the Vienna Declaration does not contain any refe-